

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 to 12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (previously presented): A method for operating a filter, the method comprising:

forcibly passing a stream of a fluid through a filter wall of the filter from a raw gas side to a clean gas side of the filter so as to separate out particles and particle constituents from the stream, wherein the particles and particle constituents are collected by the filter wall on the raw gas side; and

performing a regeneration process on the filter during operation of the filter to remove particles from the filter wall and moving particle constituents not removed from the raw gas side of the filter by the regeneration process to a receiving device disposed downstream of at least a portion of the filter by forcibly passing a stream of fluid from the raw gas side through the filter so that the particle constituents are carried by the fluid to the receiving device.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the particles include soot and the particle constituents includes ashes.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the regeneration process is performed continuously during operation of the filter.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the moving of the particle constituents is performed continuously during operation of the filter.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the fluid is a gas.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the filter is a particle filter for an internal combustion engine.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A method for operating a filter including a plurality of filter walls forming a plurality of channels which are closed by a closure wall configured to be partially opened, the method comprising:

forcibly passing a stream of a fluid through the filter walls of the filter from a raw gas side to a clean gas side of the filter so as to separate out particles and particle constituents from the stream, wherein the particles and particle constituents are collected on the raw gas side; and

performing a regeneration process on the filter during operation of the filter to remove particles from the filter wall and disposing of the particle constituents not removed from the raw gas side of the filter by the regeneration process by flowing fluid from the raw gas side to the clean side and forcing the particle constituents through the channels toward the closure wall.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein that the fluid stream forcibly passed through the filter so that the particle constituents are carried by the fluid to the receiving device is imparted with a pulsating flow to move the removed particle constituents to the receiving device.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the forcibly passing a stream of fluid through the filter so that the particle constituents are carried by the fluid to the receiving device includes feeding a pressurized medium into the filter on the raw gas side to move the removed particle constituents to the receiving device.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 21, wherein the pressurized medium is pressurized air.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein a portion of the fluid stream flows through the receiving device.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the receiving device includes a regenerable filter surface.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the forcibly passing a stream of fluid through the filter so that the particle constituents are carried by the fluid to the receiving device includes a step of passing a medium that moves the removed particle constituents to the receiving device through the receiving device and out of a flow outlet leading out of the receiving device and into the clean gas side.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the forcibly passing a stream of fluid through the filter so that the particle constituents are carried by the fluid to the receiving device includes closing an outlet leading out of the clean gas side of the filter and passing a medium that moves the removed particle constituents to the receiving device through the receiving device and out of a flow outlet leading out of the receiving device.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the regeneration process includes feeding nitrogen dioxide into the filter.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 13, wherein the regeneration process is performed thermally.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A filter comprising:

a filter wall dividing a clean gas side and a raw gas side of the filter and configured to separate out particles and particle constituents from a stream of fluid passing flowing from the raw gas side through the filter wall and to enable the particles to be removed in a regeneration process; and

a receiving device located downstream of at least a portion of the filter wall configured to receive a flow of the fluid from the raw gas side of the filter therethrough and to receive and hold the particle constituents, the filter wall and receiving device being arranged such that the stream of fluid passing through the filter wall from the raw gas side forces the particle constituents into the receiving device.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The filter as recited in claim 29, wherein the receiving device is removably connectable to the filter wall.

Claim 31 (canceled)